



Flows from Flaming Gorge Dam to Increase Temporarily to Benefit Endangered Fish



Melissa Trammell (National Park Service), with a razorback sucker caught last April in the Green River, UT

The Bureau of Reclamation will increase releases from Flaming Gorge Dam beginning on or around Wednesday May 29, 2013 for up to 10 days as part of a cooperative experimental program to benefit endangered razorback sucker in the Green River below the dam. Flows will increase from an average of 820 cubic-feet-per second to powerplant capacity of 4,600 cfs.

Scientists have been monitoring the critical habitat to detect the first emergence of larval razorback sucker as a "trigger" to increase Flaming Gorge Dam releases as part of an experiment being implemented by Reclamation in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife



Service and Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program to transport as many larval fish as possible.

Critical nursery habitat for endangered fish exists in the floodplains along the Green River downstream of the confluence of the Green and Yampa rivers. This nursery habitat connects to the river at flows at or above 8,300 cfs, which is the targeted flow this year with the dry hydrology. The increased releases from the dam combined with the Yampa River flows will provide the maximum possible flow to transport the larval fish.

Current projections are for the Yampa River to reach at least 8,200 cfs this Wednesday May 29. The projected peak at Jensen, Utah, resulting from the combined flows of the Yampa River and Flaming Gorge is approximately 12,000 cfs. The combined target flow of 8,300 cfs at Jensen, Utah may not be reached if flows in the Yampa River fall below 4,000 cfs. If that occurs, Reclamation may increase releases above powerplant capacity to maintain the target flow.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has been consulted concerning the impacts of the releases to the rainbow trout fishery below the dam. While releases during this period will make fishing the river more difficult, no adverse impacts to the fishery are expected.



Razorback Sucker in a tank at Uvalde National Fish Hatchery in Texas. Photo by Mark McKinstry

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Contract Signing for the Carl Hayden Visitor Center Remodel



The Carl Hayden Visitor Center in Page, Ariz. is about to undergo a major face lift with all new displays now being designed for visitors to the Bureau of Reclamation's Glen Canyon Dam and the National Park Service's Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and Rainbow Bridge National Monument. Reclamation has issued a contract valued at approximately \$1.5 million to Pacific Studio, Inc. of Seattle, Wash. to design, fabricate and install all new exhibits in the center. Reclamation and the National Park Service are partners in the operation of the visitor center located adjacent to the dam. [click here for article](#)

San Juan River Recovery Implementation Program Wins America's Great Outdoors Program Award



Barry Wirth
Public Affairs Officer (well, at least until this Friday)
Regional Office

Wow – just about four and a half years have passed since we launched *UC Today*. The idea of an electronic news letter that can quickly be shared throughout the entire Upper Colorado Region was a dream that came out of a communications team made up of members of the Region's Upper Colorado Leadership Team. Now, as I retire at the end of this week and look back at the growth of *UC Today*, it is a matter of great pride, not only for me, but hopefully for all of you who have made the publication what it is today.



Our first issue came out on Wednesday, January 14, 2009. It was a little shaky getting started. I went back and looked at what we were covering at that time. Bill McDonald was just named Acting Commissioner. We had a lot of stories wrapping up the Bush Administration and transitioning into the Obama Administration. We covered the news that Ken Salazar had just been nominated to be Secretary of the Interior. Dirk Kempthorne was leaving the Secretary's office and we covered his final speeches and accomplishments. In retrospect, we didn't have too much about the actual UC Region and a lot more about the changing administrations.

Undaunted, we persevered, saying that *UC Today* would be "To, For, and About" the people and work of the Upper Colorado Region. Thank goodness we had a commitment from the Regional Director to provide the resources to make it happen. One statement in our opening issue still rings true today. "Please don't assume that someone else, be it manager or fellow employee, will carry forward your interests or meet your informational needs." We still hope you will talk with your Division or Office's representative on the Editorial Team; that you will share ideas and concerns; and that you will become involved in shaping upcoming issues by providing information on your work, projects, and offices.

It remains a work in progress – but we are certainly moving in the right direction. In addition to hearing from each other across portions of six states, we now count a number of readers in the Commissioner's Office and the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Office. I fervently hope that we have brought all of us a little closer together, broadened the understanding of the diversity of this great region, and shared some of the fun that happens here at work too.

As you eventually join me in retirement, please add your name to the growing list of retirees that get *UC Today* send to their home computers. I've already signed up and I look forward to reading about the continued accomplishments of all my friends in the Upper Colorado Region.

Thank you all for your wonderful support in building *UC Today*!

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Thoughts from the Front Office

Over a few days this week, I had the opportunity to be the "acting" regional director. The first thing that Ginny Little asked me was whether I wanted to have the R.D.s staff meeting after Memorial Day Monday. I quickly answer "no," thinking that 1) I wouldn't know what to say from the R.D.s chair, and 2) if I was asked a hard question outside of my HR comfort zone, I might be caught mumbling an incoherent response.

All those imagined concerns faded in to insignificance when Brent, my immediate boss, called from Albuquerque and gave me two agenda items to discuss at the weekly Commissioner's (RLT) call. It had something to do with "acre feet" and "silvery minnows." I was definitely out of my normal subject area! Lucky for me Ann was teleworking, and said that she'd handle it.

Thanks to Ginny, several times over the few days that I was acting, I had the red folder labeled "Executive Correspondence" appear on my desk on a regular basis, with various documents for signature. They ranged from a credit card use approval for Barry Longwell out in Four Corners, to 40-year contracts dealing with specific amounts of water--again those "acre feet." I also had the opportunity to have a few individual discussions on issues that needed to be talked about at the time.

I'm happy that Larry is back in the office. I'm more than happy that I was entrusted to act in his capacity for a few days. I know that it is on an established rotation, but I still appreciated being asked. The most important lesson that I learned was the region is in good hands, those "good hands" being those of all the employees who know their jobs, who go about doing their jobs whether or not any one is looking over their shoulders.

The breadth and depth of what we quietly and constantly work on is pretty amazing. I have always been proud to be a part of the Bureau family, usually seen from my more defined perspective in human resources. To get to help out in a different capacity, like so many of us do on a regular basis, especially considering the challenges that sequestration has put in front of us, has been challenging, rewarding, and educational. Thanks for being there, all of you. And thanks for coming back, Larry. I can now take off the necktie!

Terry Farnham

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Annette Perez - It sad and happy for me



By Annette Perez
Secretary
Albuquerque Area Office

Ms. Annette Perez started working for the Bureau of Reclamation as a Receptionist in July of 2006 as a temporary employee. She became a permanent employee in June 2007 when she accepted a Secretary position with Reclamation. She was previously worked for Department of Defense as a contract employee in Maryland before moving to Albuquerque in July 2006. She



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is currently working for with the Administrative Services Division in the Albuquerque Area Office (AAO). Her responsibilities include tracking, organizing, coordinating program activities; preparing and reviewing correspondence; reviewing Govtrip for the AAO; and supporting other Program Divisions. She takes pride in being able to handle whatever comes her way.

She is proud to be serving as the Special Emphasis Program Coordinator (SEPC) for the AAO for the Upper Colorado (UC) Region. In her role as SEPC, presentations are created and observed primarily to ensure knowledge of minorities, women, people with various disabilities, and people with various sexual orientations are provided an equal opportunity in employment and program delivery activities. She coordinates her work to promote special emphasis awareness and education to help achieve workforce diversity.

Ms. Perez is proud to be serving as a representative on the Upper Colorado Diversity Action Team (UCDAT) and a key member of the Workforce Leadership Awards sub-group of the UCDAT. The UCDAT is a volunteer group of UC Employees whose goals are to increase the diversity in the Region. The Workforce Leadership Awards are an annual award designed to recognize individuals who have demonstrated a significant commitment to enhancing diversity in the workplace or community.

Ms. Perez is proud to be serving as the Parliamentarian of The Upper Colorado Administrative Support Council (UC ASC) and in her new role she planned on being connecting and educating everyone in our office about the organization. Ms. Perez thinks it is important for members to be responsible for communicating the interests, concerns, and questions of their support staff to their ASC representative.

It sad for me and happy too, to say that I accepted a promotion and a new position with Fish & Wildlife. My last day with the Bureau of Reclamation will be May 31, 2013. I want to take the opportunity to thank you all for being a great team to work within the Albuquerque office and the Upper Colorado Region. I have enjoyed working for this company and I appreciate having had this wonderful opportunity to work with you all.

During these almost seven years, you all have provided me support and through your encouragement and guidance I have been able to excel at the projects offered to me. With many of you, I have shared a unique relationship which I hope will continue in the years to come even though I shall not be here with the company. I now look forward to this new position that brings forth new challenges and adds more diverse experience to my career.

I do wish you and the company every success in all its future endeavors.

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No More Bumpy Rides



By Mike Owen
Maintenance
Glen Canyon Field Division - Power Office

The Glen Canyon Field Division Maintenance Department recently resurfaced the Carl Hayden Visitor Center parking lot exit ramp.

Severe desert heat and many years of wear and tear caused the ramp's asphalt to migrate to the lower side creating ripples and mounds of asphalt up to twelve inches thick. These ripples created a washboard or speed-bump effect and a very rough ride for exiting tour group buses and passenger vehicles.

After working with management to assess the problem and determine the best course of action, it was decided that one hundred sixty feet of asphalt should be removed and replaced with steel reinforced concrete.



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Before the project began, Don Elwood, Maintenance Supervisor, worked with Lori Greene of the Acquisitions Management Department to begin the procurement process for 90 cubic yards of concrete. Once a detour was created for exiting traffic, the construction began.

All members of the Maintenance crew (Maintenance Men, Utility Men, and Heavy Duty Laborers) participated in the project. The old asphalt was cut then removed with a backhoe, a forklift and a dump truck. Once the area was clear of asphalt, the sub-grade was adjusted to proper grade and compacted. Rebar was tied-in and set on stands. The concrete was then poured in sections.

From start to finish the project took 15 working days. The members of the maintenance crew did an excellent job and gained valuable experience.



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Reclamation brings Rolling River to School on Tesuque Pueblo



By Tim Murphy
Major Projects Division
Albuquerque Area Office

On Monday, April 22 2013, Todd Kirkpatrick of the Program Management Group at the Albuquerque Area Office and I brought the Rolling River trailer and the Water Jeopardy game to the Te-Tsu-Geh-Oweenge School on Tesuque Pueblo as part of the school's Earth Day celebration.

We set up the Rolling River as two watersheds, one a more "natural" river and the other an "urban/agriculture" river. The natural river had many times the riparian vegetation, higher sinuosity and greater ground cover on the adjacent uplands than its urban counterpart. The



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urban river was channelized, straightened, lined with farm fields and houses, crossed by roads and had little riparian or adjacent upland vegetation.

We set up with help from Ryan Swazo-Hinds and his assistant, Jeremy, and were ready for the first group of students in less than an hour. The first group of 15 consisted of the younger grades, K-3. About a third of the way through the presentation part of the Rolling River (before we turned on the water pump), a bus arrived with 12 high school students, so we backed up the presentation to better include them. The presentation was interactive, Todd taking the lead and developing a good rapport with the students. I focused on issues of erosion and environmental issues such as pollution and runoff, and how pine needles and ground cover protect soils. We had applied green food coloring to areas where spills of fuels, oils, or fertilizers would be likely to spill. We turned on the "rain" and asked as many questions as we answered. The kids especially liked the mayhem of houses, livestock and trees falling into the rolling river on the urban side. After the first run of mayhem on the river, we stopped the rain and worked with the students to restore and protect reaches of the river by planting riparian vegetation and placing rocks in the channel to reduce the flow rate.

We cleaned up the mess caused by slides, erosion, loss of property and livestock, and with "FEMA" assistance, rebuilt the urban and rural parts of the model. The second group of 12 older students arrived and one of them asked where the mine was, so we added it complete with green food coloring tailings toxic runoff.

The green food coloring was a hit, running into both rivers from point sources at the mine, tanks at the farm, and road runoff. The older students helped restore damage on the river and many opted to move their homes further away from the river's edge.

We then drained the system and broke for lunch at the school with the high school students, Ryan and Jeremy.

After lunch, Todd and I set up the Water Jeopardy game and played it through with the two groups of elementary students. Todd explained how to play the game (modeled on the Jeopardy game show except dollars are replaced with cups of water). Each group formed two teams (towns) and each team "elected" a leader (mayor). The mayors conferred with their townspeople to decide what answers to attempt and for the proper question to gain cups of water. The final and hardest questions were reserved for each team with an attachment of adults (teachers, principle, parents) available and final cups of water were tallied. We followed the same sequence with the younger students afterwards.



Ryan helped us with drying and cleaning off the sand from the Rolling River and we discussed the future opportunities to present a similar program for other students in the Pojoaque Basin. Ryan is very enthusiastic and will take the lead to bring in other Pueblos and non-pueblo (public



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schools) to set up something like a water festival in the future. This type of presentation reaches students and indirectly parents, unofficial opinion leaders and community leaders through the students and school staff. I interjected into each part of the presentation something about the Regional Water System and how it will bring surface water from Colorado to the area and reduce the dependence on groundwater. We talked about wells, pollution that can foul well water, water treatment and issues such as subsidence that occurs when the water table drops when the aquifer is overdrawn.

I believe this type of outreach is beneficial and educational, and in consort with the various types of public involvement, we can reach current and future generations that will benefit from the Regional Water System in a non-threatening way.

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When People Think of Scaffolds



Figure 1 - The draft tube scaffold installed at Flaming Gorge Power Plant.

By Joseph Bullough, PE
Mechanical Engineer
Upper Colorado Region

During the past year the UC Engineering Services Group has been involved with preparing Professional Engineer (PE) certified drawings for draft tube scaffolds at various power plants throughout the Region. When most people think of scaffolds, they typically think of the metal frame structures on the exterior of buildings, used to perform maintenance on the structure. But in the case of draft tube scaffolds, the scaffolds are small work platforms temporarily placed in the draft tube below the turbine, and are used to allow workers to perform maintenance and inspection of the downstream side of the turbine runner and the penstock immediately beneath.



The design of the scaffolds vary, but typically consist of an aluminum frame which supports a plywood work surface.

The draft tube scaffolds in the UC region are quite aged and do not have any engineering drawings or other data from when they were constructed. Comprehensive Facility Reviews (CFRs) at several facilities had revealed this deficiency, so the Engineering Services Group was tasked with correcting the situation. Site visits at the facilities allowed inspection of the scaffolds (either installed in the draft tube or temporarily laid out on the floor), and measurements and photographs were obtained. Back in the Regional Office, a set of detailed drawings was generated, load calculations were performed, and the results were supplied to the power plants in the form of PE certified drawings.

Draft tube scaffold drawings were created for Fontenelle, Flaming Gorge, Blue Mesa, Morrow Point, and Crystal dams. The scaffold for Glen Canyon Power Plant is currently under study.



Figure 2 - Work crews install the draft tube scaffold at Blue Mesa Power Plant.

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Oral History Spotlight

The UC Regional Library has a collection of 110 oral history interviews conducted by Historians, with various Reclamation employees throughout the years. The oral histories capture candid “in their own voice” memories of employees and their experiences working for Reclamation. The oral histories preserve information about Reclamation that would not normally appear in Reclamation’s official records. Contents of the oral histories range from the humorous to reflective of the situation at the time, and all are informative!



Oral History Interview
John W. Keys III

Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation
July 17, 2001- April 15, 2006.



Mr. Keys spent 34 years in Reclamation and retired as Regional Director of the Pacific Northwest Region in Boise, ID. He then worked an additional 5 years as Commissioner. What follows are excerpts from Mr. Keys' oral history book:

“There is a *loyalty* to Reclamation that I will *never* lose.”

“Reclamation is a family agency. It has been run like a family. At times that's caused problems, at times it's been good. There is a *loyalty* to Reclamation that I will *never* lose. I don't care who they put in as commissioner. I don't care how many political people he brings in with him. I don't even care at times what direction they put us in. We're a family organization, and we care for each other. I don't know how long *you've* been with Reclamation, or whether you've picked up that feeling. If you've worked in the Denver office all your time, you may not have gotten that feeling. But if you get out in the field, *especially* in the small towns, the small offices, and the regions, I think you'll find that. I think that's why it's so hard on some of our people to go through the big changes that we're doing right now, is they see a threat to that family relationship that they've come to depend on.”

“I thought I knew politics before.”

“Politics. I thought I knew politics before. Didn't know crap, and, at times, my assistant secretary reminds me that I don't know crap about politics. I mean, that 's his opinion, but still, he may be right in some cases, because my old approach to doing jobs is just, lay it out on the table and say, “This is what it is. What's the right thing to do?”

...

To read the full interview [of John W. Keys III click here](#), or if you prefer a hard copy contact [Chantel Bouchard](#), Regional Office Library Coordinator.

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RECYCLING AT ITS BEST



















Thinking About Insurance, Part Two

By Tammy Flanagan - March 22, 2013

<http://www.govexec.com/pay-benefits/retirement-planning/2013/03/thinking-about-insurance-part-two/62017/>

Last week, we [began looking at how the need for various types of insurance](#) changes as you progress through your career, focusing on the first two stages of the typical working life: early- and mid-career. This week, let's look at the latter two stages: pre-retirement and retirement.

Pre-Retirement

Health Insurance: At this stage of life, you need to be sure that your health insurance coverage matches your health concerns. Do you have a chronic illness that requires expensive therapy or prescription drug treatment? Are you at risk of heart disease, stroke or diabetes? Do you see a specialist on a regular basis? You should have a comprehensive health plan. Review your deductibles, coinsurance and catastrophic protection of your existing Federal Employees Health Benefits Program coverage. Compare your plan to others available to you, using the Office of Personnel Management's [online FEHBP tool](#).

It's important to remember that health and life insurance coverage ordinarily must be in effect continuously for at least five years before your retirement date or you will be ineligible to carry this benefit into retirement.

Life Insurance: By this stage, your needs for life insurance may be diminishing. Are your children grown and not as financially dependent on you? Is your mortgage almost paid? How much is in your Thrift Savings Plan account? This investment is now part of your retirement income that is available to you as well as to your beneficiary should something happen to you.

It's a good idea to re-evaluate your life insurance coverage every five years. Consider that Federal Employees Group Life Insurance coverage will cost 13 cents per \$1,000 biweekly at age 50; 23 cents per \$1,000 at age 55; 52 cents per \$1,000 at age 60; and 62 cents per \$1,000 at age 65. The cost continues to rise every five years to age 80 when it levels off at \$2.40 per \$1,000 biweekly. There's more information on [OPM's life insurance page](#).

You may cancel your FEGLI coverage at any time, unless you have assigned your insurance to another party.

Survivor Benefits: At pre-retirement, you should begin to request annuity estimates that will not only show you the value of your retirement as of a given date, but also provide you with the information regarding the value of survivor

benefits and insurance coverage. An annuity estimate under either the Civil Service Retirement System or the Federal Employees Retirement System also will reveal any inconsistencies in your federal service history and the need to address any service credit issues. Here's more from OPM on the subject of [planning and applying for retirement](#).

Social Security: To find out what your spouse and dependent children would be entitled to from your Social Security record, set up an [online account](#) and check your latest personal benefits statement.

Long-Term Care Insurance: You're at the age where most people have made up their minds about long-term care coverage. A 60-year old could purchase a \$365,000 lifetime benefits for a little more than \$300 per month, including a 5 percent automatic inflation protection feature and comprehensive coverage that pays for in-home care as well as facility care. The 5 percent inflation feature means that every 14 years or so, the amount of the benefit doubles. Use this [online calculator](#) to price the cost of Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program coverage.

Retirement

Health Insurance: After your career officially ends, you presumably will carry your FEHBP coverage with you into retirement. At this stage, if you're approaching age 65, you should consider Medicare. I explored the relationship between these two types of coverage in a [column last year](#). It also links to a series of previous columns on the subject.

Life Insurance: Once you retire and reach age 65, your FEGLI insurance may begin reducing, depending on the options you selected at retirement. In many cases, you will be left with no premiums, but only a minimal amount of remaining coverage. If your needs are mainly for final expenses, then there is no longer a need to pay high premiums to maintain your pre-retirement level of coverage. This is an area where retirees will generally spend less money in retirement.

Survivor Benefits: If you were married at retirement, you probably elected a spousal survivor annuity. Your latest statement from OPM will show you its current value. This is a very valuable benefit to a surviving spouse as it will provide a partial replacement of your retirement benefit should you die before your spouse, and will protect your spouse's right to maintain FEHBP coverage.

Social Security: Now that you have retired, you must consider when is the best time to apply for Social Security retirement benefits. You have an eight-year window from age 62 to 70. Here's [more information from the Social Security Administration](#). Remember, if you're still working, there's an earnings limit until you reach your full Social Security retirement age. SSA also offers an [earnings test calculator](#).

Long-Term Care Insurance: By now, you've probably made a decision regarding your need for long-term care insurance. As you get older, it is more difficult to purchase this type of insurance, since there are questions to answer about your health and the monthly premiums are higher when you purchase at a later age. Remember, although the cost of insurance is expensive, so is the cost of care. For example, in the Washington metropolitan area, the cost of nursing home care costs an average of \$90,520 per year with an average two-year stay.



Fred Liljegen Receives Meritorious Service Award



Deputy Regional Director Brent Rhees, Fred Liljegen and Deputy Regional Director Ann Gold

By Jay Roundy
Chief, Lands and Program Management Group
Upper Colorado Regional Office

Fred Liljegen, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Upper Colorado Regional Office's Lands and Program Management Group, was awarded the Meritorious Service Award on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, in an all-employees meeting.

With over 35 years of dedicated Federal service at the Bureau of Reclamation, Fred has become known as a recreation icon throughout all five regions of Reclamation where Fred is



recognized with the status and title of “ambassador.” In simpler words, Fred is the “go to guy” for anything having to do with outdoor recreation.

While Fred’s accomplishments cannot be summarized without a lengthy writeup, the common denominator in Fred’s many years of service is that he has constantly brought groups together to function as a cohesive, harmonious team.

During his lengthy career, Fred has earned numerous awards; has been an innovator in recreation management, science and technology, effective water usage, guidebooks, and resource management planning; and has even received patents that directly benefit Reclamation.

For his many and varied accomplishments, Fred was awarded the Meritorious Service Award of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Congratulations, Fred!

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2013 CAST For Kids Navajo Lake Event



By Mark Watkins
Regional Office
Area Safety Manager
Photos by Mark Watkins

On May 11, 2013, the New Mexico State Parks hosted the annual CAST for Kids day at Navajo Lake. The event was chaired this year by Cheryl Moline who works for the state park. Cheryl performed an outstanding event said Art Pasley who represents the Cast for Kids Foundation who lives in Dallas/Fort Worth area.

This year's event had 20 young children and parents taking part in a day of fishing. Some were lucky to catch fish this year, and some were not so lucky but had a great day anyways and,



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some were on a boat for the first time. All had smiles when they returned to the docks. Even the boat captains had smiles on their faces. Local sponsors provided lunch and supper for the volunteers. The Piedra Vista High School ROTC provided the colors during the awards ceremony. The biggest catch of the day was from the New Mexico State Parks Ranger who just happened to catch a new species of a flat white foam fish. It took a backhoe and others to land the new fish. Hopefully there are no more like that one mentioned the Ranger.



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Cheryl is ready to do it again next year

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BIKE SAFETY - How to Not Get Hit by Cars



By Melissa Bishop
Human Resources Assistant
Upper Colorado Region

The Right Cross - This is the most common way to get hit (or almost get hit). A car is pulling out of a side street, parking lot, or driveway on the right. *Notice that there are actually two possible kinds of collisions here: Either you're in front of the car and the car hits you, or the car pulls out in front of you and you slam into it.*

How to avoid this collision:

- Get a headlight
- Wave
- Slow Down
- Ride Further Left

The Door Prize: A driver opens his door right in front of you. You run right into it if you can't stop in time. This kind of crash is more common than you might think: It's the second-most common car-bike crash in Toronto, and the #1 crash Santa Barbara.

How to Avoid this Collision:



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Ride far enough to the left that you won't run into any door that's opened unexpectedly.

The Crosswalk Slam: You're riding on the sidewalk, you cross the street at a crosswalk, and a car makes a right turn, right into you.

How to avoid this collision:

Get a headlight.

Slow Down.

Don't ride on the sidewalk in the first place.

Some special sidewalks are safe to ride on. If the sidewalk is really long (no need to frequently cross streets), and free of driveways and peds, then there's little risk to you and others. Just make sure when you *do* cross a street or driveway that you *slow down considerably* and that you *check the traffic in all directions*, especially behind you if you're riding with the flow of traffic.

The Wrong-Way Wreck: You're riding the wrong way (against traffic, on the left-hand side of the street). A car makes a right turn from a side street, driveway, or parking lot, right into you. They didn't see you because they were looking for traffic only on their left, not on their right. They had no reason to expect that someone would be coming at them from the wrong direction.

How to avoid this collision:

Don't ride against traffic.

Riding the wrong way is against the law and you can get ticketed for it.

Red Light of Death: You stop to the right of a car that's already waiting at a red light or stop sign. They can't see you. When the light turns green, you move forward, and then they turn right, right into you. Even small cars can do you in this way, but this scenario is especially dangerous when it's a bus or a semi that you're stopping next to. An Austin cyclist was killed in 1994 when he stopped to the right of a semi, and then it turned right. He was crushed under its wheels.

How to avoid this collision:

Don't stop in the blind spot. Simply stop *behind* a car, instead of to the right of it. This makes you very visible to traffic on all sides.

The Right Hook: A car passes you and then tries to make a right turn directly in front of you, or right into you. They think you're not going very fast just because you're on a bicycle, so it never occurs to them that they can't pass you in time. You're passing a slow-moving car (or even another bike) on the right, when it unexpectedly makes a right turn right into you, trying to get to a parking lot, driveway or side street.

How to avoid this collision:

Don't pass on the right.



Look behind you before turning right.

The Left Cross: A car coming towards you makes a left turn right in front of you, or right into you. Austin cyclists hit this way include Dr. Lee Chilton, John Howell (former president of the Austin Cycling Association), and Janne Osborne.

How to avoid this collision:

Don't ride on the sidewalk.

Get a headlight.

Wear something bright, even during the day.

Don't pass on the right.

Slow down.

The Rear End: You innocently move a little to the left to go around a parked car or some other obstruction in the road, and you get nailed by a car coming up from behind.

How to avoid this collision:

Never, ever move left without looking behind you first.

Don't swerve in and out of the parking lane if it contains any parked cars.

Use a mirror.

Signal.

The Rear End Part 2: A car runs into you from behind. This is what many cyclists fear the most, but it's actually not very common, comprising only 3.8% of collisions. However, it's one of the hardest collisions to avoid, since you're not usually looking behind you.

How to avoid this collision:

Get a rear light.

Wear a reflective vest or a safety triangle.

Choose wide streets.

Choose slow streets.

Get a mirror.

Don't hug the curb.

For more [bicycle tips click here](#)

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FBMS Status Update

May 2013

Reclamation has continued to progress toward FBMS conversion, slated to “go live” with Deployment 8 (D8) on November 7, 2013. There has been and will continue to be much work within the UC region to prepare for this conversion. Reclamation’s FBMS Project Management Team (PMT) has a very useful intranet site that provides updates and helpful resources regarding the FBMS conversion process- check it out [here](#).

We are currently in the realization phase which is the longest of the FBMS phases and will continue through August 2013. In this phase, we will complete data cleansing activities, role mapping, training preparation, and participate in testing. Update highlights include:

- Reclamation’s second submission of role mapping has been submitted to the Department’s FBMS Project Management Office for review.
- UC Region identified over 200 users with FBMS roles for the 2nd submission.
- The PMT hosted a 3 day FBMS Orientation targeted for users. Detailed discussions were held in the areas of finance, budget, acquisitions, financial assistance and property. There was also a lessons learned panel with representatives from previously deployed bureaus.
- Mock data testing has begun. The PMT is running consolidated data through test scripts to find potential errors prior to conversion.
- FBMS data validation is scheduled to begin shortly. The subject matter experts have been given limited access to FBMS for data validation purposes.

If you have any questions regarding FBMS, feel free to contact Shara Hillier, FBMS Regional Coordinator at shillier@usbr.gov or (801) 524-3660.

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Reclamation Trivia

Here's this week's set of questions:

1. How many days will the Flaming Gorge Dam temporarily increase the flows? _____ Which endangered fish species will benefit from this?
2. How many working days did it take to complete resurfacing at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center parking lot? _____ Why did it need to the parking lot need to be resurfaced?
3. What does FEMA stand for?

Last week, We asked,

1. Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month - The month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869.
2. This course is backed by 25 years of original research and data from over 3 million leaders, The Leadership Challenge® is a leadership development methodology, created by researchers and bestselling authors Jim Kouzes and Barry Posner. The course is led in the Upper Colorado Region by Dick Jorgenson, Regional Learning Officer.
3. What is asbestos? Asbestos is the name given to a group of naturally occurring minerals that are resistant to heat and corrosion.

Last winner was – **Tyler Patterson – Regional Office**

Please use this [link to send your answers](#). To be fair we will draw names from the winners and one person will receive a prize. We will reach into the prize bin for something suitable for the winner...as long as supplies last.

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RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

May 2013
Upper Colorado Region



UC Today

In Transition

Steve McCall is Retiring



Steve McCall has worked for the Bureau of Reclamation in the Western Colorado Area Office for over 40 years. He was the third environmental specialist to be hired by the UC Region and he had a lot of freedom to shape/create his job position because when he was hired there was no job description for an environmental specialist, so no one knew what he was supposed to do. Over the years he has had many opportunities to complete projects that were good for fish and wildlife, which is what he loves about his job. Some of the projects Steve was involved with are: the Aspinall and Navajo Units of the Colorado River Storage Project, Dallas Creek, Animas-La Plata, and Grand Valley Unit of the Colorado River Salinity Control Act.

Steve's unique abilities and skills served Reclamation well in fulfilling its mission by keeping a balance between water development and protection of natural resources. By planning and



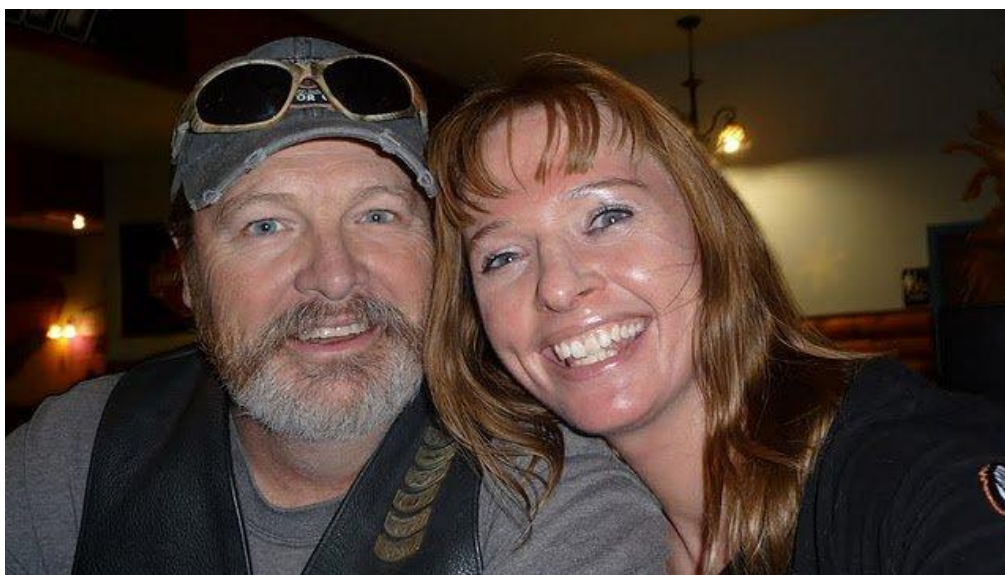
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developing wildlife mitigation areas in western Colorado Counties, addressing stream flows to protect and enhance fisheries in Western Colorado rivers, and completing environmental impact statements for numerous Reclamation projects, Steve has inspired his peers and superiors.

During retirement Steve looks forward to fly fishing on the Grand Mesa and along the Gunnison River, hiking, and playing with his wife and 5 grandchildren.

#####

Terry Ayer is Retiring



I have 37 years of working with some of the finest people around and I have decided to retire.

I spent 4 years in the Navy doing two WestPac tours on the USS Truxtun a nuclear powered guided missile cruiser CGN-35.

After my discharge I took the civil service exam and put my name in for consideration for federal service. I was interviewed by the chief of surveys in Montrose, Colorado and asked what I knew about surveyors. I said they were the guys who held people up on the road. He laughed at me and said "I see you had trigonometry in high school when can you start?" I was bartending full time and replied "Monday". I worked in the Montrose Construction Office from March of 1980 until it closed in May of 1989 in the survey branch. I worked in the Durango Projects office as a civil engineering tech from May of 1989 until May of 1993. I then worked in the Grand Junction Area Office from May of 1993 until March of 2008 when I became the Administrative officer.

I am now moving on to a career of motorcycle riding, spending time with friends and family, playing Santa for the annual toy run, woodworking, tinkering, camping, hunting, honey do's and other retirement pursuits. But most of all I am looking forward to spending my time with the love of my life Lea and of course the kids Allan and Jena. I am raising kids again for the second time and it is so much more fun the second time around. Guess I am more patient this time.



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I want to say a big thank you to all of my Reclamation family for all that you have done and shared with me!!! You all have been the best people to work with!! I know that working in the situation that we do with all of the red tape is frustrating but still all of you have been very good to work with throughout the years and I will miss you all. I wish each and every one of you health and most of all happiness!!

#####

Other UC Region Employees Retiring

Galan K Hanson	5/22/2013	Elephant Butte
Gene T Lincoln	4/30/2013	Western Colorado Area Office - Montrose
Paul J Sampson	4/01/2013	Western Colorado Area Office - Montrose
Jose M Velasquez	3/31/2013	Navajo Dam
Michaela H Nelson	1/31/2013	Regional Office
Laurie A Jones	1/12/2013	Western Colorado Area Office - Montrose
Richard Urbom	1/03/2013	Regional Office
Barry Wirth	5/31/2013	Regional Office
Dick Beeman	6/04/2013	Regional Office

#####

Former PN Region Employee Barbara Bea Powell dies

Barbara Bea Powell passed away Wednesday, May 22, just 4 days prior to her 81st birthday at Deaconess Hospital in Spokane, Washington. Barbara was born May 26, 1932 in Rozell, Kansas to Frank and Lola Mae Powell. One of 6 children, Barbara left Kansas soon after she graduated from high school.

Barbara was a very hard worker and was very proud of her various jobs with different government agencies. While in the Grand Coulee area, she worked for the Bureau of Reclamation until her retirement.

Barbara is survived by sisters, Gloria Jean Thomas of Prescott Valley, Arizona, Wilda Grace Powell of Seattle, Washington and brother, James Dudley Powell of Green Valley, Arizona. She



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was predeceased by her parents, sister, Wanda Mae Allen and two brothers, Jack Edward Powell and Joseph W. Powell.

Barbara was a very private individual and lived a simple life. Those she counted as friends feel privileged to have known her. Neptune Society is honored to be assisting in Barbara's final earthly journey. At her request, no services will be held.

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What Is the Media Saying About Reclamation This Week?

[Colorado River study projects large shortfall](#)

[US weighs earlier start to drying of Rio Grande through Socorro County in central New Mexico](#)

[Rio Grande flow may be cut](#)

[Interior officials announce next steps to address supply-and-demand gap](#)

[The Latest: Quagga mussels invade Lake Powell](#)

[Colorado River's future focus of conference](#)

[Colorado River meeting, new map highlight challenges to river system](#)

[Colorado River's future focus of conference](#)

[The U.S., Mexico, and the Decline of the Colorado River, Stratfor](#)

[Water Officials Ponder Colorado River's Future](#)

[US urges conservation as Colorado River hit by drought](#)

[Water banking criteria](#)

[Colorado River's future focus of conference](#)

[Sustaining the Mighty Colorado](#)

[Colorado River meeting, new map highlight challenges to river system](#)

[Another Water-short Year in the Southwest Taking Its Toll](#)

[Environment: All eyes on the Colorado River](#)

[Top Federal Water Managers Discuss Future Of Colo. River](#)

[State, tribe disagree over Lake Roosevelt fishing jurisdiction](#)

[Governor "Butch" Otter featured in ads for canal safety](#)

[Colorado Basin shortages possible by 2016](#)

[U.S. is urging conservation on Colorado River](#)

[Colorado River future on agenda today in SD](#)

[Department of the Interior Announces Start of 2013 Share the Experience Photo Contest](#)

[Water Agencies Respond to Colorado River Protection Efforts](#)

[Feds convene meeting over Colorado River water supplies, demands](#)

[Water releases from Flaming Gorge to increase Wednesday](#)

[Colorado River woes: States look to three-pronged search for solutions](#)

[Don't expect full reservoirs this summer](#)

[Colorado River Meeting In San Diego Brings Western States, Tribes And Conservation Groups Together](#)

[Stuff I wrote elsewhere: Colorado River shortage possible by 2016](#)

[Interior Awards Grants to Improve Water Management](#)

[Conservation Service Corps Seeks Youth For Public Lands Projects](#)

[As Colorado River drought worsens, water officials parley](#)

[How to save our water supply before the Colorado River runs dry](#)

[Colorado River Shortage Threatens Drinking Water For 40 Million](#)

[Flows from Flaming Gorge Dam to Increase Temporarily to Benefit Endangered Fish \(5/28/13\)](#)

[Gunnison River Diversion Dam Project To Improve Fish Habitat](#)

[Interior Awards WaterSMART Funding in California and New Mexico to Stretch Water Supplies, Provide Flexibility to Water Managers](#)

[Forecasters: New Mexico slips further in drought marking driest on record for last 2 years](#)

[Portions of Middle Rio Grande bosque to close as officials impose tougher fire restrictions](#)

[A daring and dangerous mission](#)



[Rehabilitations coming for Gorge Dam spillway gates](#)

[Drought conditions force bosque closure in three counties](#)

[Second controlled explosion planned at intake site](#)

[Water reuse efforts in Calif., N.M. receive WaterSMART grants](#)

[NM, CA water reuse projects to receive \\$15.6M through Interior's WaterSMART program](#)

[Industry News - Water is lower than normal for this time of year at Canyon Ferry Reservoir](#)

[Albuquerque's aquifer recharging](#)

[Utah to receive water conservation grants](#)

[\\$20M in Interior Department water conservation grants include projects in Utah, Nevada, Calif.](#)

[Low Elephant Butte Lake levels dampen spirits of some holiday revelers](#)

[Why the Endangered Species Act Is Broken, and How to Fix It](#)

[Picture this: Your vacation shot on an America the Beautiful pass](#)

[Keeping an eye on Fruitgrowers Dam](#)

[April snows were great, but water challenges lie ahead for Colorado](#)

[Lake Powell Officials Require Boat Cleansing Before You Leave](#)

[Reviving Rivers: A Sign of Hope for the Colorado](#)

[Forecasters say San Luis Valley headed for rough water this year](#)

[Fishing event for children at San Luis Reservoir on Saturday](#)

[Lawmakers to weigh federal investment in desalination technology](#)

[The "Arizona" Generating Station Needs to Benefit Navajos](#)

[Goose Bay interim contract awarded](#)

[Reclamation Announces Beginning 2013 Irrigation Season for Rio Grande Project](#)

[News & Notes: Judge won't reconsider ruling on mining ban](#)

[Invasive quagga mussels found in Lake Powell for first time](#)

[Lake Roosevelt levels spike higher, rivers dropping](#)

[Colorado: Dillon Reservoir may come close to filling this year](#)

[Water is lower than normal for this time of year at Canyon Ferry Reservoir](#)

[Clean boats well to prevent zebra mussel invasion](#)

[State drought conditions worse each week](#)

[New Mexico Faces Disaster as Extreme Drought Intensifies West of the 100th Meridian](#)

[Renegotiating the U.S.-Mexico historic water treaty video](#)

[Effects of drought on New Mexico video](#)

[U.S., Mexico: The Decline of the Colorado River](#)

[National Park Foundation Announces The 2012 "Share the Experience" Photo Contest Winners](#)

[NM agency plans to order metering of underground water wells in portion of state](#)

[River flows near record lows](#)

[Spruce beetle infestation brings warning of flooding in southern Colorado](#)

[Experts predict drought could make for dangerous mosquito season](#)

[Group of Utah legislators wants Herbert to reconsider Snake Valley decision](#)

[Silvery minnow faces cruel, cruel summer on parched Rio Grande](#)

[Drought marches to the West](#)

[Parched delta poised for comeback, but big challenges remain](#)

[Another water-short year in the Southwest is taking its toll](#)

[State of the Rivers raises issues with the Colorado](#)

[Justices ask White House for input on Texas-N.M. water dispute](#)

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